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- CONFIDE

COUNTRY Germany

Germany (Russian Zone)

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SUBJECT

CDU liembership Increase in Soviet Zone

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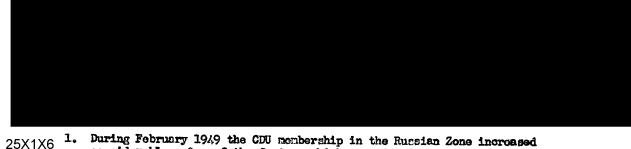
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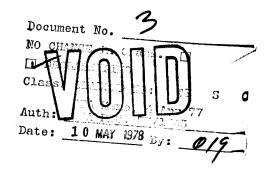
SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.



- During February 1949 the CDU membership in the Russian Zone increased considerably. One of the factors which caused this increase is that when personnel reductions are necessary, employees who have no party allegiance are dismissed first. The SED is accepting no new members except after a one to two year probation; the CDU is the only party in the Eastern Zone which is now accepting new members with few formalities.
 - 2. The chief editor of the CDU organ Thuringer Tageblatt, Baumann, was arrested recently. According to statements from SIA headquarters in Karlshorst, this arrest was not directed against the party or the newspaper, but was because of Baumann's own actions. He was apparently intending to escape to the western zones and his secretary, attempting to go several days in advance, was apprehended at the border with compromising documents.

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

Next Review Date: 2008



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